

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2019-290-WS

IN RE:)	
Application of Blue Granite Water Company for)	Settlement Status Report
Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase)	Pursuant to Order No. 2021-703
Rates (Appellate Case No. 2020-001283))	
)	
)	

The Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) instructed the parties in the above-referenced docket to submit a status update on settlement discussions within 45 days of September 23, 2021 if a settlement agreement had not been reached.¹ The Office of Regulatory Staff, Blue Granite Water Company, and the Department of Consumer Affairs hereby submit this joint status report and provide the Commission with an update on the progress of settlement discussions.

Following the issuance of the Supreme Court’s opinion, Blue Granite provided ORS and the DCA with workpapers outlining a draft settlement of the remanded issues. On Friday, September 17, 2021, ORS, Blue Granite and the DCA met virtually to discuss the items remanded by South Carolina Supreme Court Opinion No. 28055 as well as the workpapers provided by the Company. Subsequent to that meeting Blue Granite provided ORS and DCA with updated workpapers and additional workpapers. On September 22, 2021, ORS reached out to all parties by e-mail to ask about their interest in settlement discussions. Over the first full week of October, ORS reached out to all parties to assess their interest in receiving settlement-related workpapers.

¹ Because 45 days from September 23 is a weekend, the filing date shifts to the next business day, November 8, per Rule 6, SCRCF and S.C. Code Regs. 103-831.

Forty Love Point, York County, and Jim Knowlton have received settlement-related workpapers. On October 16, 2021, Blue Granite provided ORS and DCA with a draft settlement agreement, and ORS provided Blue Granite with redlines and questions on November 4, 2021.

ORS, Blue Granite, and DCA believe that agreement on appropriate ratemaking treatment of the remanded issues is likely achievable and will continue to pursue agreement as well as to seek to ensure that all parties interested are given an opportunity to provide review and input prior to final agreement. ORS would request to provide the Commission with an additional update in 30 days if settlement is not reached.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Alexander W. Knowles

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